

MINUTES
UTAH
ATHLETIC TRAINERS
BOARD MEETING

June 6, 2007

Room 464 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 9:30 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 10:15 A.M.

This meeting was delayed due to the inclement weather.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Noel Taxin
Karen McCall

Board Members Present:

Brad L. Nelson
Dale P. Mildenberger
Ronda Ingram
Bill G. Bean, Chairperson

Board Members Absent:

Leesa Myers
Amy P. Powell, MD

Guests:

Lisa Walker, Athletic Trainer Association
Representative

DOPL Staff Present:

David Stanley, Division Director

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The minutes from the November 8, 2006 meeting were read.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Mr. Mildenberger seconded the motion. **The Board vote was unanimous.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Board Chairperson

Ms. Taxin explained that every year the Board has the

opportunity to change Board Chairperson or retain the current Chairperson.

Mr. Mildenberger made a motion for Bill Bean to serve for another year as Chairperson.

Ms. Ingram seconded the motion.

The Board vote was unanimous.

Identifying Credentials

Mr. Bean explained that many licensees have asked what acronyms they can use after their name to designate that they are a licensed Athletic Trainer. He stated that he contacted ATCBOC who informed him that Athletic Trainers cannot use the acronym of ATC as it is protected by a trademark. He stated that ATC recommended licensees use LAT to designate Licensed Athletic Trainer. Mr. Bean stated that with the LAT acronym his signature would be Bill Bean, ATC, LAT.

Ms. Taxin reviewed the Athletic Trainer Law and informed the Board that their Law does not give a designation of any acronyms. She stated that under 58-40a-301(3), the Law states “An individual may not use the title “licensed athletic trainer,” or “athletic trainer,” or abbreviations or insignias to imply that the individual is an athletic trainer unless the individual is licensed under this chapter.” Ms. Taxin stated that the Acupuncture Board had a similar discussion as their Law required them to use the full name of Acupuncturist after their name. She stated that they recently changed their Law in order to allow them to use Licensed Acupuncturist or L.Ac. behind their name.

Mr. Bean read a letter from BOC which stated that no one can change the ATCBOC acronym based on the protected trademark.

Ms. Taxin responded that maybe the Association could make a recommendation as the Law is not specific regarding an abbreviation.

Mr. Nelson asked if there is a recommendation from

the National organization.

Mr. Bean responded that the National organization recommends ATC, LAT.

Ms. Ingram commented that BOC is trying to protect the ATC acronym.

Mr. Mildenberger commented that Utah licensees would not be in violation if they wrote ATC-L behind their signature.

Ms. Ingram wondered if it would be confusing to the public.

Ms. Taxin commented that licensees could use ATC with a hyphen or a dash and then the L, ie: ATC-L or ATC/L.

Mr. Mildenberger responded that the license is the important part as it allows the licensee to work in the State of Utah.

Mr. Bean asked if the issue is such that the Association should be part of the discussion.

Mr. Mildenberger responded that he did not believe there is an immediate need to act on the issue.

Ms. Taxin commented that maybe the Law should be opened up and include the information in the Law as to what acronyms licensed Athletic Trainers may use.

Mr. Bean recommended the issue be deferred until the Association has had a chance for discussion.

Ms. Taxin reminded the Board that they may talk with the Association as licensees but not as Board members. She explained that when any Board member speaks regarding an issue others think they are speaking for the Board.

Ms. Ingram asked how the licensees will be notified of the recommended acronyms.

Ms. Taxin responded that the Board cannot tell licensee's what to write as the Law does not have it spelled out specifically. She stated again that the Law only states that non-licensed persons cannot call themselves Athletic Trainers if they do not have the license. She stated that there is no way to enforce how licensees use acronyms.

Mr. Bean asked if the Association is the entity that should make the decision.

Ms. Taxin responded that it is probably the Association's responsibility but the Board can voice their opinion to the Association. She stated that it would be better if the Association and the Board agreed with the decision.

Mr. Bean asked for further discussion to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Bean informed Ms. Walker, Association representative, of the Board discussion and that the Board is of the opinion that it might be an Association issue.

Ms. Taxin again explained that the Law does not address the issue and there is no way to enforce what licensee's write behind their name.

Ms. Walker responded that LAT/ATC is what most of the other States are doing. She stated that BOC is not currently enforcing the protected trademark name of ATC but probably will at some point in time.

Mr. Nelson commented that with LAT/ATC you are putting in Athletic Trainer twice. He stated that he understood that acronyms were to be narrowed down.

Mr. Bean responded that academia will only allow 3 acronyms.

Ms. Taxin stated that licensee's do not have to write ATC after their signature. She stated that licensee's could write Athletic Trainer.

Mr. Bean stated that if a formal recommendation or

motion needs to be made, he would recommend the Association ask their membership.

Ms. Taxin asked if the Board preference is for ATC-L.

The Board responded that Ms. Taxin is correct.

Ms. Taxin asked if a licensee went to another State what acronym would identify them as a licensee.

Mr. Nelson responded that L-ATC would be the identifier.

Ms. Taxin asked if the Board is concerned about the L to identify to the public that they are licensed. She stated that if there is no L it would indicate that the person was not licensed. She stated that ATC is common and people are used to using that acronym as an identifier and will probably continue to use it.

Ms. Walker commented that Denise at BOC is trying to be sure the States understand that the National Association may require membership at some point in order to use the acronym.

Further discussion will take place at the next scheduled meeting.

Retired Athletic Trainers

Mr. Bean asked what Utah and the Board will do about retired Athletic Trainers. He stated that all licensees are required to retain the BOC certification in order to renew the license. Mr. Bean stated that CE is required to retain the BOC certification.

Mr. Mildenberger commented that it is a mute point as licensees must retain the BOC certification to renew and if they let that expire they cannot renew the Utah license.

Ms. Taxin recommended licensees continue to renew their license. She explained that if the license has expired over 2 years applicants must meet current requirements to reinstate. Ms. Taxin related an incident regarding a 92 year old woman

who called in recently to inquire about reinstating her license. She stated that the license expired several years ago and cannot be reinstated as the woman no longer meets current requirements.

Mr. Nelson suggested the profession be informed of the consequences of letting the license expire.

Mr. Mildenberger stated that the difficulty has been completing the CE to retain the ATCBOC certification. He stated that the CE is getting more available.

Ms. Taxin responded that she encourages licensees to complete the CE requirements and renew their license.

FYI

Mr. Stanley joined the meeting.

Ms. Taxin introduced Mr. Stanley and informed the Board of Craig Jackson's resignation as Division Director and F. David Stanley having been appointed as the Division Director.

Mr. Bean asked when Mr. Stanley was appointed.

Mr. Stanley responded that it was made official in January 2007.

Board members welcomed Mr. Stanley to the Division and to this meeting.

Licensee Statistics

Ms. Taxin stated that she has distributed the licensee statistics for the Board. Ms. Taxin stated that she normally does not review the licensing statistics with the Boards but based on Athletic Trainer being a new profession she thought the Board might be interested. Ms. Taxin reviewed the report with the Board. She stated that she and the Board had anticipated there would be about 150 licensees in the first year and, to date, there are 144 licensees. Ms. Taxin stated that she has received a few calls from people inquiring about the licensing requirements who do not have the BOC certification. She informed the Board that there have not been any complaints against any licensee. Ms. Taxin reported that some of the transcripts that have

been received have been questioned by the staff as the transcripts do not indicate completion of an athletic training education program. Ms. Taxin stated that she has directed the staff that the education meets the requirements if the applicant has the BOC certification. Ms. Taxin asked the Board if they have any questions or if there is any confusion that needs to be discussed or explained.

Mr. Bean stated that he has heard that Ms. Taxin's staff are responding back to applicants very quickly.

Ms. Taxin responded that the staff tries to be efficient and if the applicants have not followed the directions in filling out the application and submitting all required documents then a letter is sent out regarding what is needed to complete the application.

Mr. Mildenberger asked if someone in education programs who is teaching athletic trainer courses is required to be licensed.

Ms. Taxin responded that it is good for teachers to support the profession as they are promoting licensure. She stated that teachers cannot say they are an athletic trainer or that they are a licensed athletic trainer but could say they have a degree in athletic training and are teaching athletic trainer classes. She stated that teachers also cannot use the ATC acronym if they are not licensed but if they have the ATCBOC certification they would meet the licensing requirements. Ms. Taxin stated that she would encourage teachers to be licensed as there could be a problem regarding them practicing without a license if they take the students down to the training room for hands on training.

Mr. Bean thanked Ms. Taxin for the explanation and stated that he had an individual ask him the question who did not want to submit an application right away as it was close to the renewal date and he did not want to pay the application fee and then the renewal fee right after. Mr. Bean stated that he would inform this individual of Ms. Taxin's response.

2008 Board Meeting Schedule

The Board noted that there are no other Board meeting dates scheduled for the Remainder of 2007.

Ms. Taxin asked the Board if they would like to try for another meeting in 2007 and what dates they would prefer for 2008.

Board members responded that Wednesdays are best for their schedules and would like to have the meetings start at 10:00 am.

Mr. Mildenberger recommended a meeting about the middle of November.

Ms. Taxin asked if November 14, 2007 would be open for everyone and if March, June and November are good months for 2008.

Board members responded that November 14, 2007 is a good date for them and March, June and November would be good months for 2008 meetings.

Ms. Taxin asked Board members to notify her or Ms. McCall if they have items to be discussed at any of the Board meetings. She stated that she is pleased with the licensing process as it has gone very smoothly.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:

November 14, 2007

ADJOURN:

The time is 10:15 am and the meeting is adjourned.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

June 11, 2008
Date Approved

(ss) Bill G. Bean
Chairperson, Utah Athletic Trainers Licensing Board

June 20, 2007
Date Approved

(ss) Noel Taxin
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing